

# LEGEND

- Paved shoulders outside fog line;  
2 to 4 feet wide.
- Paved shoulders 4 feet and wider;  
may be designated as a bike lane.  
*Any paved road may be signed as a bike route,  
including shared roadways.*
- Paved roads; minimal or no shoulders;  
share with motor vehicles.
- Unpaved rural roads maintained by County, U.S.  
Forest Service or B.L.M. for public travel
- 5

Interstate Highway
- 238

State Route
- 199

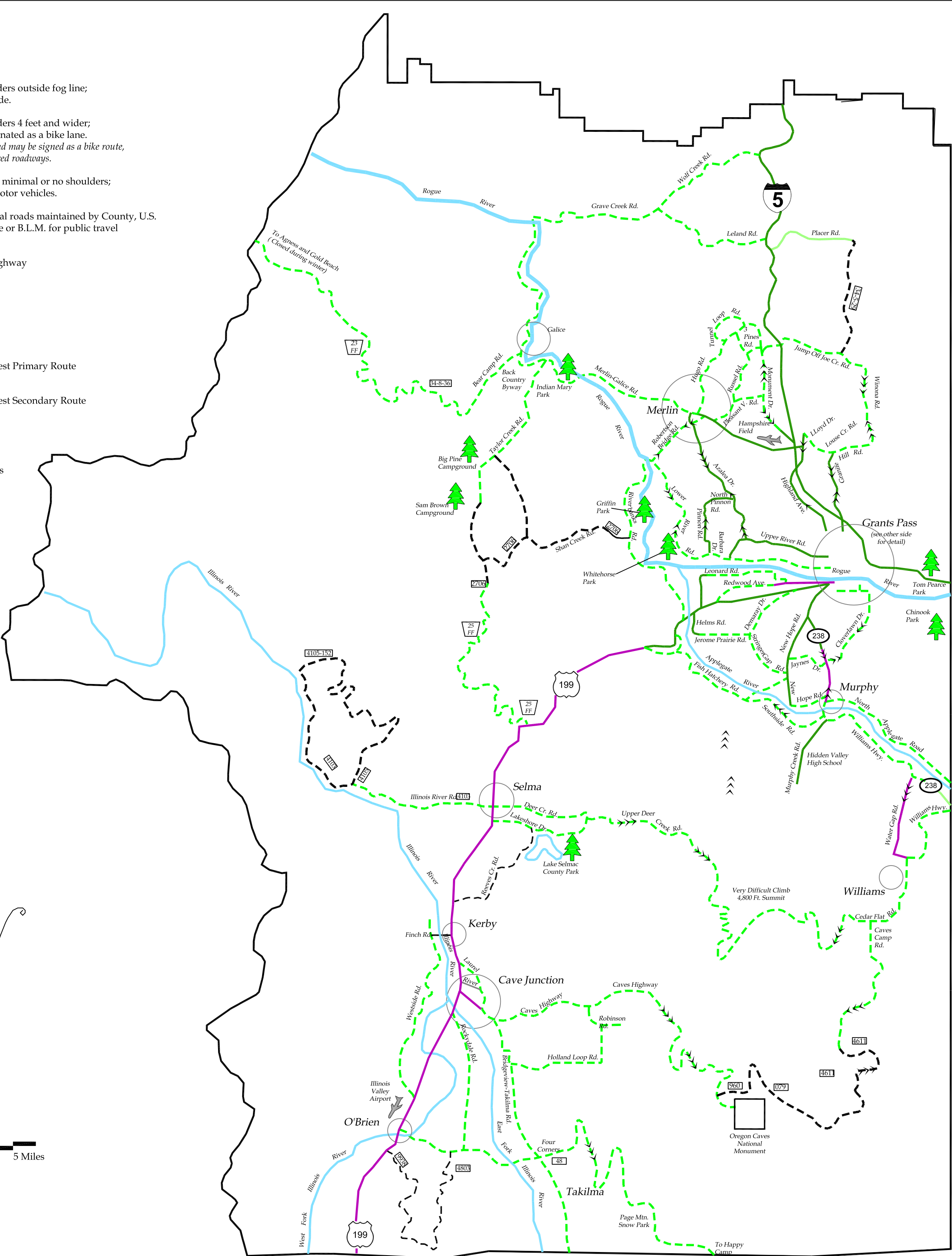
U.S. Route
- 23  
FF

National Forest Primary Route
- 4103

National Forest Secondary Route
- 64-8-36

BLM Road
- Public Parks  
with Facilities
- >>>

Hills



# JOSEPHINE COUNTY BICYCLING GUIDE - 2010

Compiled and Published by:  
**City of Grants Pass/Josephine County Bikeways and Walkways Committee**  
101 N.E. "A" St. Grants Pass, Or 97526 - Phone (541) 474-6360

## JOSEPHINE COUNTY BICYCLING ENVIRONMENT

Welcome to bicycling in Josephine County, where bicycle friendly roadways, year round climate and majestic scenery combine to provide what we believe to be the best bicycling opportunity found in the Pacific Northwest. This Guide is designed to enhance your bicycling experience by helping with route selection for recreational rides and trips to a desired destination.

Josephine County offers a wide range of wonderful routes for the outdoor enthusiast ranging from easy meandering near the scenic Rogue and Illinois Rivers to challenging mountain terrain. Major highways and more heavily traveled County routes will generally have adequately paved shoulders for bicycles. On lesser traveled routes, bicycles will share the roadway with motor vehicles. Where bike routes are designated they have been signed and striped to identify bikeways and bike lanes or to warn motorists of the presence of bicycles on the roadway. Not all recommended routes shown on the map are "designated" bike routes inasmuch as they may not be signed as bike routes.

## LIMITATIONS OF GUIDE

Not all highways, roads and city streets are shown in this Guide. Routes shown are those considered most desirable for bicycle travel. Therefore we recommend this map be used in conjunction with more detailed maps, especially in rural areas. Road grade percentage is indicated on several, but not all routes. Grade changes are minimal in and near the cities of Grants Pass and Cave Junction. Grades often exceeding 6% should be expected when traveling out of the cities or in the immediate area of the Rogue and Illinois River Valleys.

No warranty is made or intended as to the fitness or safety of routes shown in this guide for bicycle travel. Federal, State and local government officers and employees disclaim responsibility and shall not be answerable or held accountable in any manner for loss, damage or injury that may be suffered by bicyclists while traveling highways, roads, streets or paths in Josephine County.

## MOUNTAIN BICYCLING

Mountain bicycling is becoming increasingly popular. With a wide range of light-weight, rugged and affordable fat-tire models available, virtually anyone can venture into the hills on human powered wheels.

Public Lands, administered by the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and Oregon State Forestry make up over one-half of the area of Josephine County. Thousands of miles of secondary roadways, from paved to primitive, afford access to nearly all public lands except those designated wilderness areas. Secondary roads, like highways, also cross private lands. Please respect the land and tread lightly when traveling off the highways.

All forest roads are open to bicycle use including some closed to motorized entry. Some forest hiking trails are open to multiple use including bicycles; observe trail signing or check with the responsible agency listed in RESOURCES. A few routes, selected for the opportunity of a loop trip, are illustrated on the map. Remember to always carry sufficient water on back-country trips as drinking water is either unavailable or unreliable most of the year.

## ORGANIZATIONS PROMOTING BICYCLE RECREATION

Grants Pass Boys and Girls Club  
203 S.E. 9th Street  
Grants Pass, Or. 97526  
541-479-5258

Siskiyou Wheelmen  
P.O. Box 974  
Ashland, Or. 97520

Southern Oregon Cycling Association  
P.O. Box 903  
Ashland, Or. 97520

## LOOPED ROUTES

Opportunities to make looped routes are numerous in and around Josephine County. A few, on all paved roads, are listed below. Suggested trips are difficulty rated considering only elevation change. Each rider should judge their own ability to cover the estimated mileage. Ratings are:

- Easy - less than 1,000 feet
- Moderate - 1,000 to 2,500 feet
- Difficult - greater than 2,500 feet

1) Grants Pass, West - "G" St. - Upper River Rd. - Lower River Rd. - Bridge St. - Pine St. - Easy - 12 mi.

2) Grants Pass, West - "G" St. - Upper River Rd. - Azalea Dr. - return to G.P. via Merlin/Galice Rd. - Highland Ave. - moderate/18 mi. OR in Merlin go North on Hugo Rd. - Oxyoke Rd. - Jump Off Joe Creek Rd. - return to G.P. via Winona Rd. - Granite Hill Rd. - Difficult/41 mi.

3) Grants Pass, West - "G" St. - Upper River Rd. - Lower River Rd. (West) - cross Robertson Bridge and the Rogue River to Riverbanks Rd. - return to G.P. via Highway 199 and Pedestrian Bridge-Mod/Dif/30 mi.

4) Grants Pass, North - Highland Ave. - Lloyd Dr.- Louse Creek Rd. Return to G.P. South on Granite Hill Rd. - Mod/11 mi.

5) Grants Pass, North - N.E. 7th St. - Granite Hill Rd. - Winona Rd. - Jump Off Joe Creek Rd. - Return to G.P. via Monument Dr. - Highland Ave. - Difficult/23 mi.

6) Grants Pass, South - Highway 238 - New Hope Rd. - Fish Hatchery Rd. - return to G.P. via Hwy. 199 - Easy/18 mi.

7) Murphy, East - Williams Hwy. (238) - Applegate Bridge - Return to Murphy via North Applegate Rd. - Easy/24 mi.

8) Murphy, South - Williams Hwy. -Watergap Rd. - Cedar Flat Rd. - Deer Creek Rd. - Return to Murphy via Selma - Hwy. 199 - Fish Hatchery Rd. - Southside Rd. - Difficult/68 mi.

9) Merlin,West - Merlin-Galice Rd. - Grave Creek Rd. - Leland Rd. - I-5 - Monument Dr. - Pleasant Valley Rd. - Difficult/43 mi.

## INFORMATION ON FOREST ROADS, BACK-COUNTRY ROADS & TRAILS

Wild Rivers Ranger District  
2164 N.E. Spalding Ave, Grants Pass, Or. 97526  
541-471-6500

BLM - Grants Pass Interagency Office 2164 N.E. Spalding Ave, Grants Pass, Or. 97526  
541-471-6500

Illinois Valley Ranger Station  
26568 Redwood Hwy. Cave Junction, Or. 97523  
541-592-4000

Oregon Dept of Forestry  
5375 Monument Drive, Grants Pass, Or. 97526  
541-474-3152